

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

A NEW POCKET MOUSE FROM WYOMING.

BY MERRITT CARY.

Specimens of *Perognathus* in the Biological Survey collection from Sweetwater Valley and the northern edge of the Red Desert, Wyoming, represent a well marked pale race, hitherto undescribed, of *P. fasciatus*. This pocket mouse may be known from the following characterization:

Perognathus fasciatus litus subsp. nov.

Type from Sun, Sweetwater Valley, Wyoming. No. 160,600, ♀ ad., U. S. National Museum, Biological Survey Collection. Collected Sept. 18, 1909, by M. Cary. Original No. 1778.

Range.—Lower Sweetwater Valley and adjacent parts of Red Desert, Wyoming.

General Characters.—A little smaller than *P. fasciatus*, about the size and proportions of *P. flavescens*, but with slightly larger hind foot than either; color extremely pale; pelage very soft.

Color (September specimens).—Upperparts and sides palest shade of cream buff, sparsely lined with black-tipped hairs, the strong olivaceous tints of *fasciatus* entirely absent; underparts pure white; orbital ring, auricular spots and lateral line pale cream buff; tail indistinctly bicolor, slightly dusky above, white below; feet white.

Skull.—As in *fasciatus*.

Measurements.—*Type*: Total length, 128; tail vertebrae, 59; hind foot, 18. One topotype: total length, 127; tail vertebrae, 57; hind foot, 18.

Remarks.—This pocket mouse is related to *P. fasciatus* of the northern Great Plains, with which it agrees closely in all respects except color. The only specimens known—two from Sun and one from near the old Lost Soldier Stage Station 40 miles northwest of Rawlins—were collected on sandy sage and *Atriplex* flats. A September specimen from the North Platte Valley at Casper is considerably paler than typical *fasciatus* from the Yellowstone Valley, Montana, and shows an approach to *litus*.